

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Madge Ellen Turner was born on September 12, 1903, to George Washington Turner and Erma Bish Turner, one of four children, and the family immigrated to the prairie and Missouri River breaks in Walworth County, South Dakota, to claim their homestead near Glenham, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Madge graduated from Selby High School in 1921, attended Northern State Teachers College as a student and athlete, excelling as a hurdler and basketball player, and was the 1923 National Collegiate javelin-champion; and,

Whereas, Madge taught Home Economics in Colton and Wakonda, South Dakota, but left that career to marry her high school sweetheart, George Theodore Mickelson, on April 6, 1927, and they returned to Selby where he commenced his law practice; and,

Whereas, Madge became a homemaker, focusing her attention on her husband, his profession, and their four children: Janice, Lavon, Patricia, and George, and she was also very active in her husband's political campaigns as his first unofficial assistant when he was elected to the South Dakota House of Representatives, when he was elevated to the position of Speaker of the House, when he was elected as Attorney General for two terms, and as our 18th Governor for two terms, when Madge served as a gracious and elegant First Lady during those four years; and,

Whereas, In 1954, Madge and George moved their family to Sioux Falls after George's appointment as United States District Judge, and their children matured, completed their education, married, and presented them with 12 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren (with one more due in September); and,

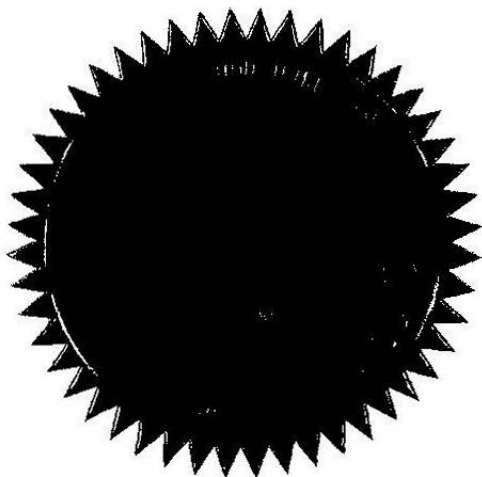
Whereas, In 1986, Madge was proud and thrilled to attend the inauguration of her son, George S. Mickelson, as the 28th Governor of South Dakota, when she was introduced to the public as the "First Lady Emeritus" of the state of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper that Madge Ellen Turner Mickelson, as a daughter of the plains and Missouri River breaks, and who has lived in this State for 94 consecutive years, who has always conducted herself as a First Lady of this State with grace and aplomb, and who will be 100 years young on September 12, 2003, be recognized for her many contributions to her family and to this State:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 12, 2003, as

MADGE ELLEN MICKELSON DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State